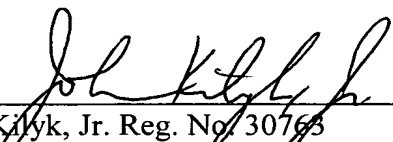


In re the Appln. of Darsillo et al.
Attorney Docket No. 99078X206650

The application is considered to be in good and proper form for allowance, and the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue. If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of the subject application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,



John Kilyk, Jr. Reg. No. 30763
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(312) 616-5600 (telephone)
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Date: April 12, 2001

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT (along with any documents referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Date: _____

April 12, 2001 _____
